

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 MMS-01 PER-01 ABF-01 OES-03

ERDA-05 /038 W

----- 029625

R 051340Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7315

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3096

FOL TEL SENT ACTION NEW DELHI INFO MADRAS CALCUTTA FM BOMBAY
04 MAR 75 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOMBAY 0526

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH IN

SUBJ: AEC/ERDA TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT

REF NEW DELHI 2919

1. I MET WITH THREE-MAN ERDA TEAM FOR OVER AN HOUR THIS PAST SAT,
MARCH ONE, AND HAD HIGHLY USEFUL EXCHANGE ON ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS
AS THEY RELATE TO OUR OPERATIONS HERE. AMONG POINTS DISCUSSED WAS
VACANT AEC SCIENTIFIC REP POSITION HERE. I STRESSED ESSENTIALITY
FILLING THIS POSITION IF WE ARE TO MAKE ANY MEANINGFUL PROJECTIONS
AS TO DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS FIELD ON BASIS RESOURCES AVAILABLE
LOCALLY. FOR EXAMPLE, WHILE BELIEVE THAT TIME DRAWING NEAR WHEN WE
MIGHT EXPECT EXPLOSION SECOND NUCLEAR DEVICE RAJASTHAN, PARTICULARLY
DURING LATE SPRING WHEN OPTIMUM WEATHER CONDITIONS PREVAIL AS
FAR AS FALLOUT PAK SIDE CONCERNED, THIS ONLY SPECULATION WITHOUT
ANY HARD INFO TO GO ON BOTH AS REGARDS TIMING AND SIZE SUCH AN
EXPLOSION. THIS TRUE AS WELL AS REGARDS DEVELOPMENTS RELATED
TO WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY.

2. ALSO STRESSED NEED EACH PERSON BE TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED
PERSON ATOMIC ENERGY FIELD WHO IN POSITION TO ESTABLISH HIS
CREDENTIALS TO SATISFACTION DAE HERE THAT HE IN FACT WHAT HE
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PURPORTS TO BE AND NOT AN INTELLIGENCE TYPE. ANY OTHER KIND

OF PERSON COULD ADD LITTLE TO WHAT WE IN CONSULATE ABLE TO DO.
I NOTED THAT AS FAR WE AWARE, CHAIRMAN SETHNA WOULD STILL LIKE TO
HAVE SUCH A PERSON HERE AND TO REESTABLISH HIS FORMER CLOSE AND
DIRECT LINK WITH AEC. APART FROM POSSIBLE VISITS ERDA PERSONNEL
IN MEANWHILE, ALSO SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY SUITABLE QUERIES BEING
SENT TO US FROM TIME TO TIME WHICH COULD FORM BASIS FOR DIS-
CUSSIONS WITH SETHNA. I DON'T LIKE TO BOTHER HIM UNLESS I HAVE
SOMETHING OF SUBSTANCE TO RAISE WITH HIM.

3. ERDA TEAM NOT OPTIMISTIC ABOUT ASSIGNMENT SUCH A REP
AND TOOK NOTE THAT WE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED RECENTLY TO LIQUIDATE
ALL AEC PROPERTY HERE, BUT INDICATED FULL SYMPATHY AND AN INTEREST
IN SEEKING A REVIEW OF THIS MATTER ON RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

BANE
UNQUOTE.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE03096
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750077-0780
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750380/aaaaculq.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NEW DELHI 2919
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AEC/ERDA TECHNICAL TEAM VISIT
TAGS: TECH, IN, AEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006